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JOB SERVICE

Washington State
Employment Security Department
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In cooperation with
the Employment and
Training Administration
U.S. Department of Labor

Washington Labor Market

Volume 9, Number 4 April 1985

HIGHLIGHTS

Job Total Springs Ahead

Warmer weather in March prompted a sharp seasonal employment expansion in Washington State. Employment rose 29,800 from February to total 1,873,500 in March (data are not seasonally adjusted). Most of the new jobs were in agriculture food processing, construction and the trade and service industries. Employment in February was depressed by snow and subfreezing weather throughout much of the state. With the snow gone and relatively dry and mild weather in March, farmers were preparing fields for the planting of this year's crops, pegging and twining in hop yards, pruning

	March 1985* (Prel.)	Feb. 1984 (Rev.)	March 1984
Civilian Labor Force	2,069,500	2,058,000	2,030,000
Total Employment	1,873,500	1,843,700	1,826,100
Total Unemployment	196,000	214,300	203,900
State Unemployment Rate	9.5	10.4	10.0
National Civilian Unemployment Rate	7.5	7.8	8.1

*These data represent alternative estimates of labor force conditions developed by the State Employment Security Department. They are more comparable with data released in previous years than are the official Bureau of Labor Statistics' estimates developed for Federal program purposes. (Data in this table are not seasonally adjusted.)

fruit trees and harvesting daffodils. Nonagricultural wage and salary employment rose nearly 18,000. Weather was a factor in the increase in nonfarm jobs too, especially in construction where outdoor work was at a near standstill in the previous month. Trade and service activities benefited from more tourist trade as sunny weekends encouraged local residents to take short trips.

Fewer Unemployed

Responding to the expansion in employment opportunities, unemployment in Washington State dropped from 214,300 and 10.4 percent of the labor force in February to 196,000 and 9.5 percent in March. In March 1984, one year ago, the jobless rate was 10.0 percent, or one-half point higher, and there were an additional 7,900 unemployed workers. Nationally, the unemployment rate fell from 7.8 percent in February to 7.5 percent in March. The rate for the nation in March 1984 was 8.1 percent. (Data are not seasonally adjusted.)

Around the State

Unemployment declined in nearly every area of the state between February and March in response to seasonal job opportunities. Conditions in individual areas, however, varied considerably. Jobless rates in March ranged from a low of 4.1 percent in Whitman County to a high of 24.6 percent in Skamania County. Whitman County's economy, of course, is dominated by wheat farming and Washington State University, while the lumber industry predominates in Skamania County. Metropolitan areas generally enjoyed lower unemployment rates than non-metropolitan areas. As might be expected, the highest rates were in the hard-pressed lumber areas. Compared with the statewide rate of 9.5 percent in March, the average rate in metropolitan areas was 8.6 percent while the jobless rate in counties highly dependent on the lumber industry averaged 15.1 percent.

Even within the metropolitan areas, however, rates varied considerably, ranging from lows of 6.7 percent in Bremerton and 7.5 percent in the Seattle Metropolitan Area, to a high of 16 percent in the Yakima area. Rates in Yakima have historically been well above the statewide rate because of the volatile nature of its major industry, agriculture and the related food processing industry. Although Yakima's unemployment was high in March, it was down from February (18.7 percent) and from March 1984 (16.6 percent). The asparagus harvest in April and May will boost employment in Yakima County substantially. Many of these jobs are filled by migrant farmworkers from the Southwestern United States. Nonetheless, unemployment should drop to the 13 percent range.

The Bremerton area owes its lower jobless rate to the stability of its major employers, the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and other naval installations. Earlier this

year, however, the Navy stated that it would reduce employment at its eight shipyards across the nation by 5,100. Cutbacks for individual yards have not been announced as yet. Seattle's economy is strong and its unemployment fairly low because of the expansion in aerospace and the diversity of its economy relative to other areas of the state. It is the major financial, medical, education and trade center for the Northwest.

Spokane's unemployment rate in March, at 9.4 percent, was close to the statewide rate, but unemployment in the area was up over the year because of layoffs in the aluminum industry. Hopefully, recent wage and benefit cuts accepted by aluminum workers in Spokane will stabilize the workforce in the industry. Further rate cuts to aluminum plants by the Bonneville Power Administration however, may also be required. The jobless rate in the Spokane Metropolitan Area in March 1984 was 8.6 percent, or eight-tenths of a point below the rate for March 1985.

Manufacturing Industries

Manufacturing employment rose 2,100 between Feburary and March in Washington State. Aerospace posted an increase of 600 to continue its expansion, while other gains were largely seasonal. The importance of the aerospace industry to the state's economy is clear in the year-to-year comparison. The number of aerospace jobs has increased 10,400 over the year, while the total for all other manufacturing industries shows a loss of 4,600. Aside from aerospace, the only manufacturing industries to produce significant jobs growth over the past 12 months have been electrical-electronic equipment (up 900), instruments (up 500), printing-publishing (up 800), and chemicals (up 700). The gains in electrical-electronic equipment and instruments reflects growth in new high-technology industries. The increase in chemicals occurred mainly in the Richland-Kennewick area's nuclear industry. The expansion in printing-publishing largely reflects an improved economy and population growth. Food products was up 500 over the year, but the gains here reflect the volatile nature of the industry.

Aerospace Keeps Recovery Alive

On the negative side, several durable goods industries have been hard hit. The major job loss has been in the lumber industry (down 4,700) because of competition from Canada and low wage areas in the South and automation. Other sizable employment losses over the past 12 months include "other transportation equipment" (down 2,200)--mainly shipbuilding, primary metals (down 900), and non-electrical machinery (down 800).

Food processors added 700 workers in March but much of the increase represented short-term jobs in potato processing. Although these workers were laid off in April, total employment in the industry should increase further as work begins on the asparagus crop. Employment in stone-clay-glass products rose 200 in March with a pickup in seasonal demand from the construction industry.

Employment in the "other transportation equipment" industry also increased 200 in March. All of the gain occurred at one shipyard. Long-term problems continue in the industry. Tacoma Boatbuilding Company, one of the largest private employers in the Pierce County area, announced a record $48 million loss in 1984. Company auditors said that without new money the Company's continued existence was in doubt. In January 1985 the company received $15 million from new investors who acquired control of the shipyard. The new money has not been enough. Adding to the firm's problems, Tacoma Boatbuilding lost a contract in early April to build six submarine trackers for the Navy. The low bidder was a New Orleans shipyard. Wage rates are as much as $5/hour less at Gulf Coast shipyards. Tacoma Boatbuilding had hoped to get the contract since it was the design developer

Long-Term Problems Continue in Shipbuilding

of the ships and had already won contracts to build 12 of the ships.

Pulp and paper industry employment dropped 100 in March and was 200 under its year-earlier level. In April, Longview Fibre announced the termination of 100 employees because of "softening markets".

Lumber Productivity Up, Jobs Down

In the lumber and wood products industry, employment was unchanged between February and March, a period when employment normally posts a significant seasonal advance. While previous downturns in the industry have mainly resulted from a low level of housing starts, the decline now results from competition from Canada and low wage areas in the South, and increased productivity. In the Pacific Northwest lumber production was about the same in 1979 and 1984, but lumber employment was estimated to be down 20 percent. Canadian mills are able to sell lumber in the United States for less than domestic producers because of lower log prices and because the U.S. dollar has increased in value relative to the Canadian dollar. Opponents of Canadian lumber imports claim Canadian lumber is subsidized by their government through the sale of timber at prices considerably below that which U.S. mills must pay. Proposals to limit Canadian lumber sales in the United States have failed.

At its annual meeting, The Weyerhaeuser Company said that the Pacific Northwest is undergoing a shakeout in its commodity wood-products industry. Its (Weyerhaeuser's) Northwest lumber and plywood mills are experiencing signficant losses in marginal profits. The company said it would continue to cut some "marginal mills and products" and reduce its workforce further.

Tacoma Smelter Closes

Primary metals employment dipped 100 in March and was down 900 over the year. The closure of the ASARCO smelter in Tacoma will result in larger losses in April and May. According to news reports, the firm employed 418 workers in late March. They expected to be down to a few security guards and office workers in two months. The closure of the historic smelter resulted from low world copper prices and the cost of complying with environmental standards.

Aluminum Competes In World Market

Aluminum employment was unchanged between February and March but was down 600 over the year. The problem facing Northwest aluminum producers is that the price for the metal is now below the cost of production at many of their plants. The supply of aluminum has increased because of greater production in foreign countries and the recycling of scrap aluminum. Scrap aluminum is now a major source of supply which can be used over and over again in many applications. While the total supply has

increased in recent years, growth in the demand for aluminum has dropped. Demand for aluminum increased for several years as manufacturers substituted aluminum for steel and copper in numerous products, e.g., beverage cans, automobiles, power cable. The substitution is now largely complete, and the demand for aluminum today is more closely tied to overall industrial activity. Thus, demand for aluminum is much more volatile than before. Northwest aluminum producers must reduce their costs of production below the market price of aluminum or close down. There are 10 plants in the Northwest including seven in Washington State. One in Oregon has already closed, while another in Montana is up for sale. Three other plants in the Northwest may close unless they can reduce their costs or unless the market price of aluminum increases.

Major costs to produce aluminum include:

Electricity	22 percent
Capital	28 percent
Alumina	26 percent
Labor	13 percent

The cost of capital, alumina, and labor are about the same for all producers. The major variable is the cost of electricity. The cost of electricity varies from 15 mills/KWh in Canada to 68 mills in Japan. The cost in the United States averages 25 mills/KWh. In Japan production has dropped by two-thirds in recent years.

Aluminum plants purchase about one-third of the electric power produced by the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). Since BPA's costs are largely fixed, BPA and its other customers have a major stake in the continued operation of the plants. BPA is now considering several options to assist the area's aluminum plants. One option is to help modernize aluminum plants so that they use electricity more efficiently. Another is to tie the price of electricity for aluminum producers to the price of aluminum. A third option is to offer a rate reduction in return for some of their rights to firm power; more power sold to aluminum plants would then be interruptable which could be sold to other customers when necessary. A fourth option would be to let the companies buy power elsewhere if it's cheaper.

Nonmanufacturing Industries

In the nonmanufacturing industries improving weather sparked gains in construction (up 3,300), retail trade (up 2,400) and the service industries (up 5,100). Snow and subfreezing temperatures which affected most areas of the state in February kept outdoor construction employment at a minimum. March marked the beginning of the industry's seasonal expansion which should continue

through summer and early fall. Sunshine in March encouraged local residents to take short trips which boosted employment at gasoline stations, restaurants, and hotels-motels. Golf courses added employees as did garden supply and building material stores. The service industry also saw expansions in agricultural services, business services, personal services (income tax preparers), and health services.

Brisk Tourist Season Expected

Tourist business will boost employment in the state's trade and service industry significantly in coming months. Foreign tourists are expected to arrive in record numbers. Customs and immigration workers at the Seattle-Tacoma Airport expect an additional 100,000 foreign visitors this year, up from one million in 1984. Visitors from the Far East, mainly Japan, have more than doubled in the last five years.

Pot Holes Help Some

Government civilian payrolls advanced 2,400 between February and March. Here, too, a good part of the gain was seasonal. Seasonal workers are hired in the spring to resume lawn and landscape work around government buildings, to fill pot holes and do other seasonal maintenance work. Hundreds of seasonal workers will be hired this summer to staff parks and playgrounds. The National Forests will also add staff to take care of various summer tasks, including fire prevention and fire fighting. Schools, at the same time, will be terminating thousands of non-teaching personnel (bus drivers, cafeteria workers, etc.) for the summer.

THE NATIONAL CONTEXT

National economic indicators were mixed in March, suggesting that the economic recovery may pause in the months ahead. While there are no signs of a major downturn, it is perhaps unrealistic to expect the recovery to continue at its pace of the last two years. Although unemployment remains unacceptably high in the nation and the state, the expansion has been substantial. Between March 1983 and March 1985, employment nationally has increased by 7.8 million (7.9 percent), while unemployment dropped nearly 3.3 million. The jobless rate in the nation was 10.8 percent in March 1983 compared with 7.5 percent in March 1985. The overall expansion has been more moderate in Washington State because of the aborted recovery in the lumber industry. Nonetheless, employment in the state rose 94,000 (5.3 percent) between March 1983 and March 1985, while unemployment dropped 71,900. The unemployment rate in March 1983 was 13.1 percent compared with 9.5 percent in March 1985.

Mixed Signals

The Index of Leading Economic Indicators in March fell 0.2 percent and increases for January and February were scaled back to 1.3 percent (from 1.5) and 0.5 percent (from 0.7) by the U.S. Department of Commerce. Estimates

of the Gross National Product (GNP) for the first quarter of 1985 confirm a slowing trend in the economy. The GNP rose at an annual rate of 1.3 percent during the quarter, down from 4.3 percent in the fourth quarter of 1984.

On the positive side, housing starts jumped 16.2 percent in March to post their largest gain in over two years. According to the Commerce Department, the seasonally adjusted annual rate rose to 1.895 million units for the nation. Exceptionally good weather in March was credited for the increase along with lower mortgage interest rates. Rates peaked in July 1984 and then fell through February 1985 before rising slightly in early March. The average rate for conventional fixed rate mortgages was 13.7 percent in March compared with 15.2 percent in July 1984. Sales of single family houses have also been strong, rising nearly 9 percent in March to their highest level since February 1984. The increase in sales was even greater in the west, up 22.2 percent from February. The Commerce Department also reported that the median price for a new single family home in March was $83,000, while the average price was $100,200.

Personal income continued to increase in March, but spending declined. Some analysts have attributed the reduction in consumer spending to delays by the Internal Revenue Service in processing tax refunds. The drop in spending, of course, is at the heart of this state's budget problems, since the sales tax is the major source of state revenue. Some of the spending slowdown in Washington State, however, likely results from the uncertainty over job security facing thousands of workers in the lumber and aluminum industries. Wage reductions in several industries may also be an increasing factor in the decline in the growth of taxable sales in the state.

EXPANSIONS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Evergreen Community Development Association, which packages Small Business Administration loans, helped many small businesses expand their operations in 1985. The following is a summary of projects funded or approved from January to April 1985:

- Restaurants International, Inc., has opened its second restaurant in Fife, creating 35 new jobs.
- Bowen, Hafey and Pennington, a CPA firm, constructed a larger building and added ten employees.
- Rax Restaurant of Monroe, an owner-built franchise, was built and will hire 36 workers.
- Hytec, Inc., a manufacturer of fiberglass tub and shower stalls, expanded to create 35 jobs in Yelm.

- Kitsap Veterinary Clinic constructed a larger facility which will employ an additional 10 workers.
- Western Clinic built a new medical facility creating 21 new jobs.
- Harbor Square Athletic Club in Edmonds is adding tennis courts and other facilities and will hire 25 additional workers.
- Glenoma Farms of Glenoma purchased and upgraded a salmon farm, which will employ an additional 22 people.

Tacoma Businesses Expand

GRS Enterprises of Tacoma, an apparel manufacturer, is building a facility which will create about 75 new jobs.

Production Plastics will hire 15 new machine operators in their injection plastic molding facility as a result of a recent expansion.

Commencement Bay Corrugated will add about 20 new jobs as a result of the expansion of their operations in the Northwest.

Moses Lake Growth

Tama Chemical Industry, Ltd., a Japanese firm, has formed a new subsidiary called Moses Lake Industries which has begun construction of facilities to produce ultra-pure chemicals for the optical fiber industries. The first phase of the project should be completed by the spring of 1985. About 20 workers will be employed by the company in 1986. The firm hopes to expand and employ 100 workers ultimately.

The Union Carbide polycrystalline silicon plant in Moses Lake will double its production capacity by 1986. The expansion will create about 100 new jobs.

Vancouver Attracts Large Japanese Facility

The City of Vancouver has received $3.5 million in grants and loans from the state Community Economic Revitalization Board to pay for road and sewer improvements needed for a new facility being built by Kyocera Corp. of Kyoto, Japan. Kyocera is building a $5.5 million computer component plant. The facility is scheduled for completion by the end of 1985 and will employ 250 workers. Kyocera may eventually expand at a total cost of about $30 million and employ 2,200 people in Vancouver.

Mushroom Plant In Seattle

A West German firm plans to open a $100,000 plant to process and export wild chanterelles. The mushrooms would be picked by 600 to 800 people who would sell them to the firm.

Taiwan Buys Washington Products

The director of the Taiwan Board of Foreign Trade said Taiwan plans to buy $300 million in Washington products, including $12.4 million in grain. The director of the state Department of Agriculture, C. Alan Pettibone, noted Taiwan is Washington's third largest trading partner.

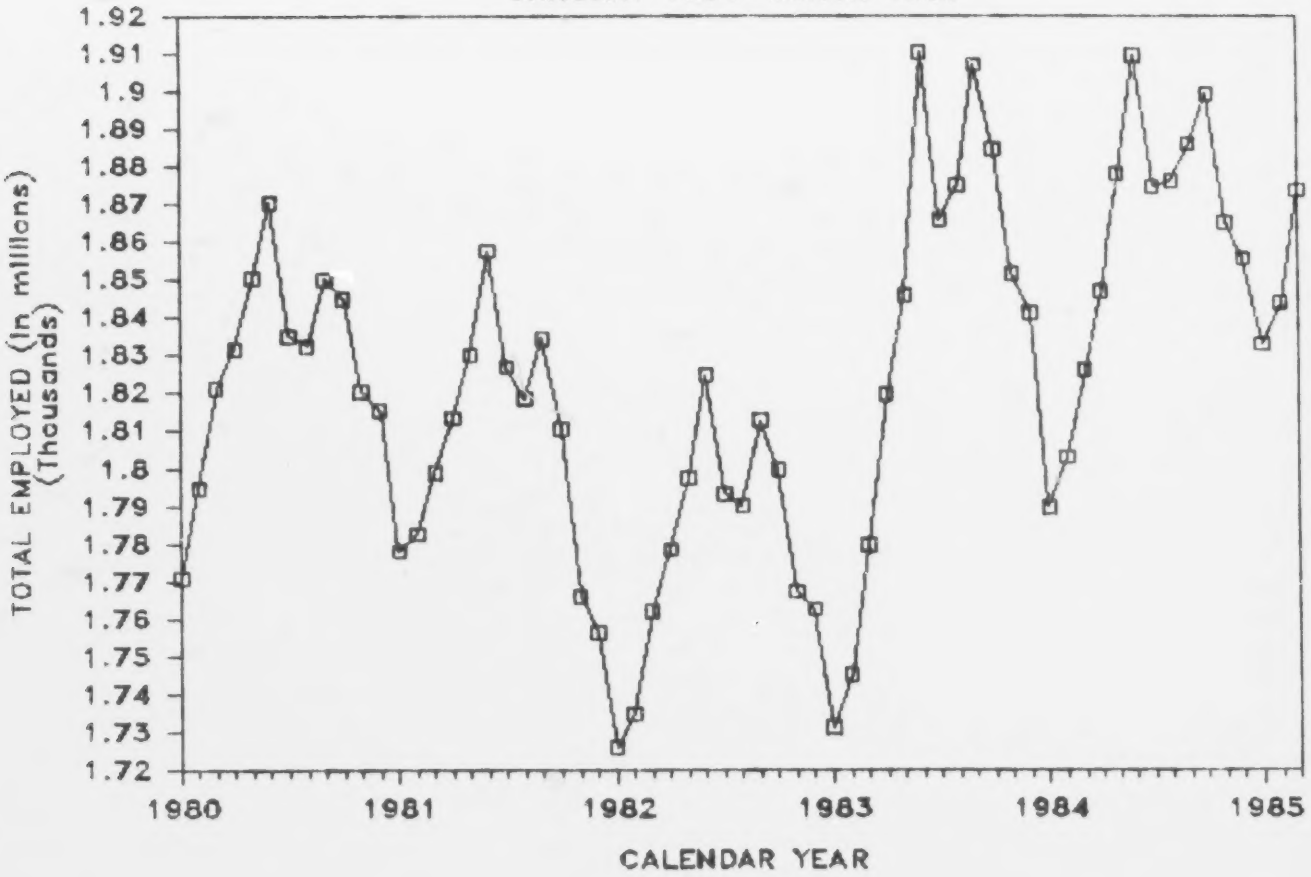
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

(All Items, Urban Consumers, 1967=100)

	INDEXES			PERCENT CHANGE			
				Year Ending		2 Months Ending	
	March 1984	Feb 1985	March 1985	Feb 1985	March 1985	Feb 1985	March 1985
U.S. City Average	307.3	317.4	318.8	+3.5	+3.7	+0.6	+0.9
Seattle-Everett	310.2	N/A	321.4	--	+3.6	--	+0.6

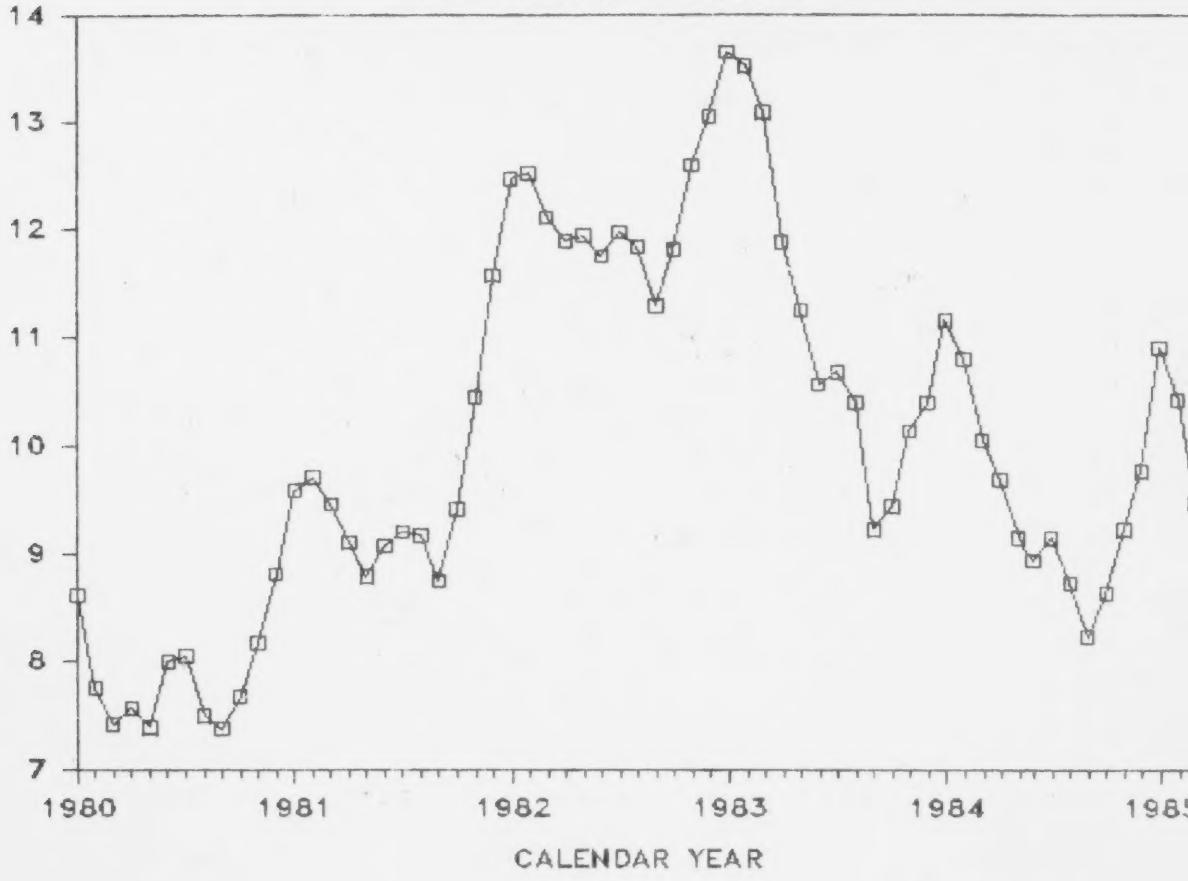
STATE TOTAL EMPLOYMENT

JANUARY 1980–MARCH 1985



STATE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

JANUARY 1980—MARCH 1985



NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE & SALARY WORKERS IN WASHINGTON STATE, PLACE OF WORK 1/

(In Thousands)

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	Mar. 1985 (Prel.)	Feb. 1985 (Rev.)	Mar. 1984	Feb. 1984	Numerical Change Feb. 85 to Mar. 85	Numerical Change Mar. 84 to Mar. 85
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE AND SALARY.	1,659.6	1,641.9	1,612.6	1,591.7	+17.7	+47.0
TOTAL MANUFACTURING.....	285.6	283.5	279.8	276.8	+2.1	+5.8
Durable Goods.....	199.6	198.5	196.0	193.3	+1.1	+3.6
Lumber & Wood Products....	36.2	36.2	40.9	40.3	0.0	-4.7
Furniture & Fixtures.....	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	0.0	0.0
Stone Clay & Glass Prod...	6.3	6.1	6.1	5.8	+0.2	+0.2
Primary Metal Industries..	12.7	12.8	13.6	13.4	-0.1	-0.9
Aluminum Prod.& Proc.....	8.4	8.4	9.0	8.9	0.0	-0.6
Fabricated Metal Prod.....	9.5	9.4	9.5	9.2	+0.1	0.0
Machinery.....	28.0	27.9	27.9	27.5	+0.1	+0.1
Machinery exc. Elect.....	16.1	16.0	16.9	16.7	+0.1	-0.8
Electrical & Electronic..	11.9	11.9	11.0	10.8	0.0	+0.9
Transportation Equipment..	88.6	87.8	80.4	79.7	+0.8	+8.2
Aerospace.....	74.3	73.7	63.9	63.4	+0.6	+10.4
Other Transp. Equip.....	14.3	14.1	16.5	16.3	+0.2	-2.2
Instruments & Rel. Prod...	10.4	10.4	9.9	9.8	0.0	+0.5
Misc. Manufacturing Ind...	4.6	4.6	4.4	4.3	0.0	+0.2
Nondurable Goods.....	86.0	85.0	83.8	83.5	+1.0	+2.2
Food & Kindred Products...	28.9	28.0	28.4	28.4	+0.9	+0.5
Canned & Preserved Foods.	9.7	9.0	9.0	9.1	+0.7	+0.7
Apparel & Other Text.Prod.	6.3	6.2	6.1	6.1	+0.1	+0.2
Paper & Allied Products...	15.7	15.8	15.9	15.7	-0.1	-0.2
Printing & Publishing.....	17.0	17.0	16.2	16.1	0.0	+0.8
Chemicals & Allied Prod...	11.0	10.9	10.3	10.2	+0.1	+0.7
Other Nondurable Goods 2/.	7.1	7.1	3/ 6.9	7.0	0.0	+0.2
MINING & QUARRYING.....	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5	+0.1	+0.1
CONSTRUCTION.....	74.6	71.3	72.3	68.4	+3.3	+2.3
TRANS.& PUBLIC UTILITIES....	3/88.7	88.3	88.0	86.9	+0.4	+0.7
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE....	402.5	398.8	391.1	385.7	+3.7	+11.4
Wholesale Trade.....	102.2	100.9	100.1	98.9	+1.3	+2.1
Retail Trade.....	300.3	297.9	291.0	286.8	+2.4	+9.3
FIN. INS. & REAL ESTATE.....	95.1	94.5	93.3	92.6	+0.6	+1.8
SERVICES.....	359.7	354.6	344.0	339.1	+5.1	+15.7
GOVERNMENT.....	350.8	348.4	341.6	339.7	+2.4	+9.2
Federal.....	69.1	68.9	67.0	67.1	+0.2	+2.1
State & Local.....	281.7	279.5	274.6	272.6	+2.2	+7.1
Education.....	156.8	156.0	154.1	153.0	+0.8	+2.7
(WORKERS IN LABOR-MANAGEMENT DISPUTES).....	0.7	0.0	0.2	0.0	+0.7	+0.5

1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during pay period including the 12th of the month.

2/ Includes textile mill products, rubber and miscellaneous plastic products, petroleum refining and related products, and leather products.

3/ Excludes workers involved in labor-management disputes.

Washington State
Employment Security Department

WASHINGTON STATE LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES FOR FEDERAL PROGRAM PURPOSES

April 29, 1985
Benchmark 1984

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	March 1985 Preliminary 1/				February 1985 Revised 1/			
	Labor Force	Employ-ment	Unemploy-ment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employ-ment	Unemploy-ment	Unemp. Rate
Washington State Total	2,083,900	1,888,700	195,200	9.4	2,075,200	1,853,800	221,400	10.7
Bellingham MSA	51,000	45,500	5,500	10.8	50,900	44,500	6,400	12.6
Bremerton MSA	65,700	61,300	4,400	6.7	65,500	60,700	4,800	7.3
Olympia MSA	61,500	55,900	5,600	9.1	60,800	54,600	6,200	10.2
Seattle PMSA	943,500	874,000	69,500	7.4	938,700	862,300	76,400	8.1
King County	740,900	687,500	53,400	7.2	736,200	678,300	57,900	7.9
Snohomish County	202,600	186,500	16,100	7.9	202,600	184,000	18,600	9.2
Spokane MSA	160,900	146,000	14,900	9.3	161,400	144,800	16,600	10.3
Tacoma PMSA	196,100	177,800	18,300	9.3	195,900	175,600	20,300	10.4
Tri-Cities MSA 2/	70,900	63,200	7,700	10.9	70,700	61,100	9,600	13.6
Vancouver PMSA	93,800	85,100	8,700	9.3	93,300	83,700	9,600	10.3
Yakima MSA	79,100	66,500	12,600	15.9	78,900	63,800	15,100	19.1
Adams	6,860	6,080	780	11.4	6,660	5,550	1,110	16.7
Asotin	8,480	7,640	840	9.9	8,560	7,570	990	11.6
Clallam	19,050	16,460	2,590	13.6	19,230	16,120	3,110	16.2
Columbia	2,190	1,840	350	16.0	1,810	1,380	430	23.8
Cowlitz	32,960	28,650	4,310	13.1	33,390	28,540	4,850	14.5
Ferry	2,690	2,130	560	20.8	2,620	2,080	540	20.6
Garfield	1,070	970	100	9.3	1,020	900	120	11.8
Grant	22,250	19,080	3,170	14.2	21,870	18,130	3,740	17.1
Grays Harbor	29,240	25,240	4,000	13.7	29,710	24,710	5,000	16.8
Island	15,950	14,580	1,370	8.6	15,670	14,060	1,610	10.3
Jefferson	6,440	5,660	780	12.1	6,440	5,550	890	13.8
Kittitas	11,110	9,510	1,600	14.4	10,830	9,090	1,740	16.1
Klickitat	6,780	5,380	1,400	20.6	6,910	5,310	1,600	23.2
Lewis	23,730	20,150	3,580	15.1	24,100	19,730	4,370	18.1
Lincoln	4,070	3,760	310	7.6	3,820	3,510	310	8.1
Mason	11,070	9,820	1,250	11.3	11,020	9,410	1,610	14.6
Okanogan	14,500	11,390	3,110	21.4	14,470	11,100	3,370	23.3
Pacific	6,740	5,490	1,250	18.5	7,050	5,390	1,660	23.5
Pend Oreille	4,110	3,430	680	16.5	4,080	3,420	660	16.2
San Juan	3,800	3,450	350	9.2	3,720	3,290	430	11.6
Skagit	33,150	28,610	4,540	13.7	32,900	27,270	5,630	17.1
Skamania	2,810	2,130	680	24.2	2,920	1,960	960	32.9
Stevens	11,530	9,420	2,110	18.3	11,450	9,250	2,200	19.2
Wahkiakum	1,170	1,000	170	14.5	1,100	920	180	16.4
Walla Walla	24,990	22,500	2,490	10.0	24,840	21,790	3,050	12.3
Wenatchee Labor Area 3/	38,160	33,280	4,880	12.8	37,020	31,560	5,460	14.7
Whitman	16,480	15,810	670	4.1	15,830	15,170	660	4.2

1/ Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. Data are not comparable with estimates made in previous years.
2/ Encompasses Benton and Franklin counties.
3/ Encompasses Chelan and Douglas counties.
Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.

Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

Washington State
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT

RESIDENT LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT IN WASHINGTON STATE AND LABOR MARKET AREAS

Date: April 26, 1985
Benchmark: 1984

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	March 1985 Preliminary 1/				February 1985 Revised 1/				March 1984 Revised			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate
Washington State Total	2,069,500	1,873,500	196,000	9.5	2,058,000	1,843,700	214,300	10.4	2,030,000	1,826,100	203,900	10.0
Bellingham MSA	50,800	45,200	5,600	11.0	50,400	44,200	6,200	12.3	52,000	46,400	5,600	10.8
Bremerton MSA	65,200	60,800	4,400	6.7	64,900	60,300	4,600	7.1	63,400	58,700	4,700	7.4
Olympia MSA	61,000	55,400	5,600	9.2	60,300	54,300	6,000	10.0	58,800	53,000	5,800	9.9
Seattle PMSA	936,700	866,900	69,800	7.5	931,600	857,600	74,000	7.9	896,200	823,300	72,900	8.1
Spokane MSA	159,900	144,900	15,000	9.4	160,100	144,000	16,100	10.1	156,100	142,600	13,500	8.6
Tacoma PMSA	194,700	176,300	18,400	9.5	194,200	174,600	19,600	10.1	192,300	172,000	20,300	10.6
Tri-Cities MSA 2/	70,400	62,700	7,700	10.9	70,100	60,800	9,300	13.3	73,300	63,300	10,000	13.6
Vancouver PMSA	93,100	84,400	8,700	9.3	92,500	83,200	9,300	10.1	92,000	82,700	9,300	10.1
Yakima MSA	78,600	66,000	12,600	16.0	78,000	63,400	14,600	18.7	84,200	70,300	13,900	16.6
Adams	6,810	6,030	780	11.5	6,590	5,520	1,070	16.2	7,360	6,400	960	13.0
Asotin	8,420	7,580	840	10.0	8,490	7,530	960	11.3	8,160	7,390	770	9.4
Clallam	18,920	16,320	2,600	13.7	19,040	16,030	3,010	15.8	18,720	16,070	2,650	14.2
Columbia	2,170	1,820	350	16.1	1,790	1,370	420	23.5	2,020	1,750	270	13.2
Cowlitz	32,740	28,410	4,330	13.2	33,090	28,390	4,700	14.2	32,840	28,850	3,990	12.1
Ferry	2,670	2,110	560	21.0	2,600	2,070	530	20.4	2,600	2,070	530	20.4
Garfield	1,060	960	100	9.4	1,020	900	120	11.8	1,180	1,060	120	10.2
Grant	22,120	18,930	3,190	14.4	21,660	18,040	3,620	16.7	22,200	19,200	3,000	13.5
Grays Harbor	29,060	25,040	4,020	13.8	29,410	24,570	4,840	16.5	29,140	25,240	3,900	13.4
Island	15,850	14,470	1,380	8.7	15,540	13,980	1,560	10.0	15,180	13,770	1,410	9.3
Jefferson	6,400	5,620	780	12.2	6,380	5,520	860	13.5	6,330	5,650	680	10.7
Kittitas	11,040	9,430	1,610	14.6	10,730	9,040	1,690	15.8	11,210	9,390	1,820	16.2
Klickitat	6,750	5,340	1,410	20.9	6,830	5,280	1,550	22.7	6,870	5,590	1,280	18.6
Lewis	23,590	19,990	3,600	15.3	23,850	19,620	4,230	17.7	24,130	20,870	3,260	13.5
Lincoln	4,050	3,730	320	7.9	3,790	3,490	300	7.9	4,440	4,060	380	8.6
Mason	10,990	9,740	1,250	11.4	10,920	9,360	1,560	14.3	10,970	9,790	1,180	10.8
Okanogan	14,430	11,300	3,130	21.7	14,310	11,040	3,270	22.9	14,820	11,770	3,050	20.6
Pacific	6,700	5,440	1,260	18.8	6,960	5,360	1,600	23.0	6,820	5,820	1,000	14.7
Pend Oreille	4,100	3,410	690	16.8	4,040	3,400	640	15.8	4,120	3,500	620	15.0
San Juan	3,780	3,420	360	9.5	3,690	3,280	410	11.1	3,510	3,170	340	9.7
Skagit	32,940	28,380	4,560	13.8	32,570	27,120	5,450	16.7	33,850	28,980	4,870	14.4
Skamania	2,810	2,120	690	24.6	2,880	1,950	930	32.3	2,630	2,040	590	22.4
Stevens	11,460	9,340	2,120	18.5	11,330	9,200	2,130	18.8	11,980	9,730	2,250	18.8
Wahkiakum	1,160	990	170	14.7	1,100	920	180	16.4	1,270	1,020	250	19.7
Walla Walla	24,820	22,320	2,500	10.1	24,620	21,670	2,950	12.0	25,030	22,210	2,820	11.3
Wenatchee Labor Area 3/	37,930	33,020	4,910	12.9	36,670	31,390	5,280	14.4	37,590	32,230	5,360	14.3
Whitman	16,350	15,680	670	4.1	15,730	15,090	640	4.1	16,720	16,160	560	3.3

1/ Estimates provided here are for use as an economic time-series. Official Bureau of Labor Statistics' estimates, which must be used for Federal program purposes, are available upon request.

2/ The Tri-Cities MSA encompasses Benton and Franklin Counties.

3/ The Wenatchee Labor Area encompasses Chelan and Douglas counties.

NOTE: Detail may not add due to rounding.
Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

ESTIMATED AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN MANUFACTURING AND OF NONSUPERVISORY WORKERS IN NONMANUFACTURING ACTIVITIES, STATE OF WASHINGTON

	MAR. 1985 Prod. or Nonsup. Workers	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
		MAR 1985	FEB 1985	MAR 1984	MAR 1985	FEB 1985	MAR 1984	MAR 1985	FEB 1985	MAR 1984
TOTAL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES *	176,900	$454.73	$445.43	$453.15	39.1	38.3	39.2	$11.63	$11.63	$11.56
SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES										
Lumber & wood products.....	32,600	437.01	408.49	440.61	38.2	35.1	39.2	11.44	11.41	11.24
Primary metal industries.....	9,800	550.64	540.76	546.87	39.7	39.5	40.3	13.87	13.69	13.57
Fabricated metal products.....	7,200	457.86	450.41	480.38	39.1	38.3	41.7	11.71	11.76	11.52
Machinery.....	16,800	371.87	354.56	391.78	39.9	37.8	39.1	9.32	9.38	10.02
Food & kindred products.....	22,000	354.31	358.53	351.62	37.1	37.0	36.4	9.55	9.69	9.66
Chemicals & allied products...	5,300	567.01	549.61	520.83	42.6	41.7	41.7	13.31	13.18	12.49
SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES										
Construction.....	53,400	600.78	571.90	600.40	36.7	35.0	36.0	16.37	16.34	16.90
Wholesale and retail trade....	247,300	316.69	312.59	307.68	34.2	34.2	33.7	9.26	9.14	9.13

* Average hourly earnings for all manufacturing production workers reported in this table do not fully reflect the official U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics definition of "wages". While these data still constitute a valid economic indicator series, they should not be be used at this time for the negotiation of contracts whose monetary provisions may depend upon official U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics hourly earnings data.

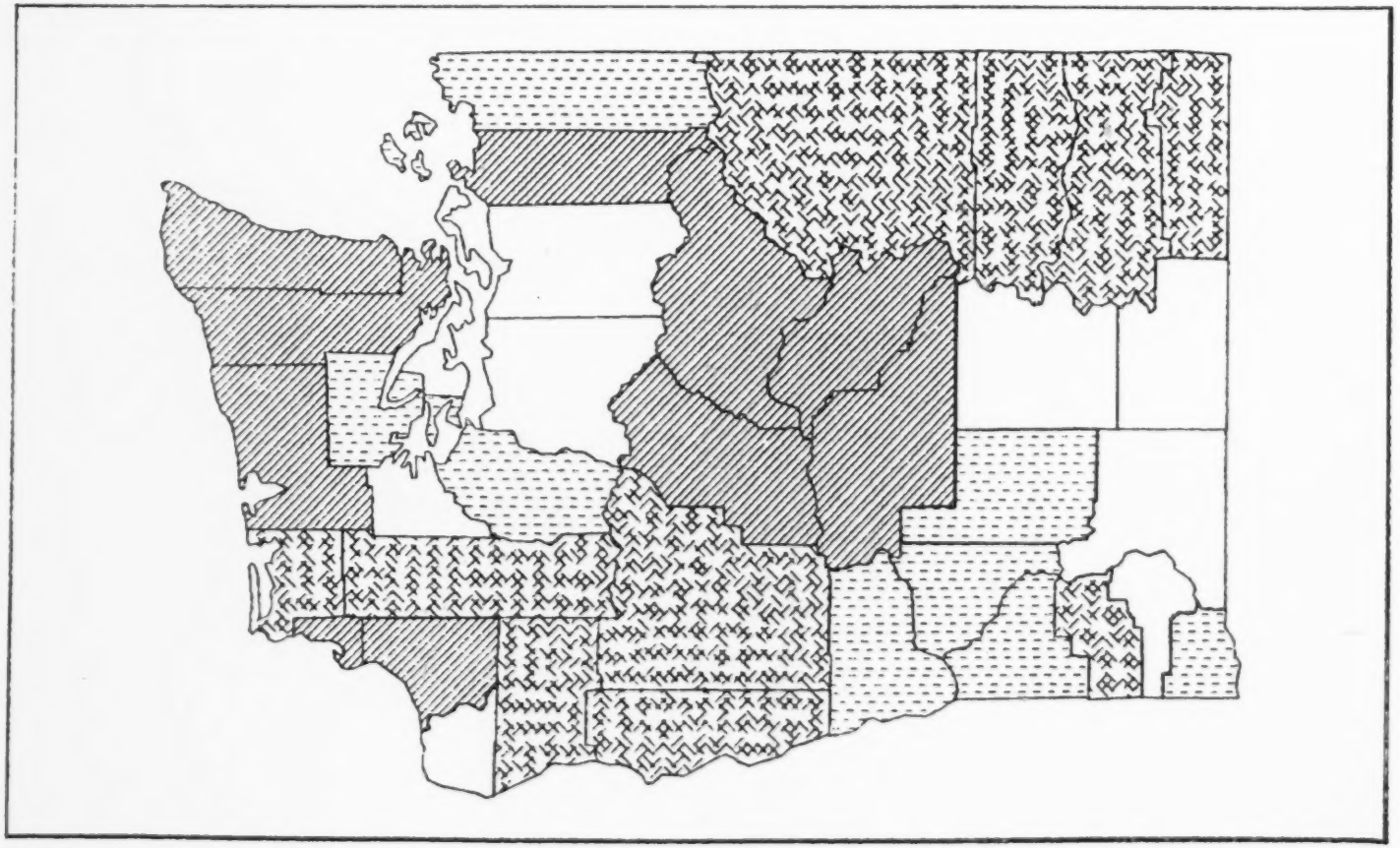
OVER 15.2

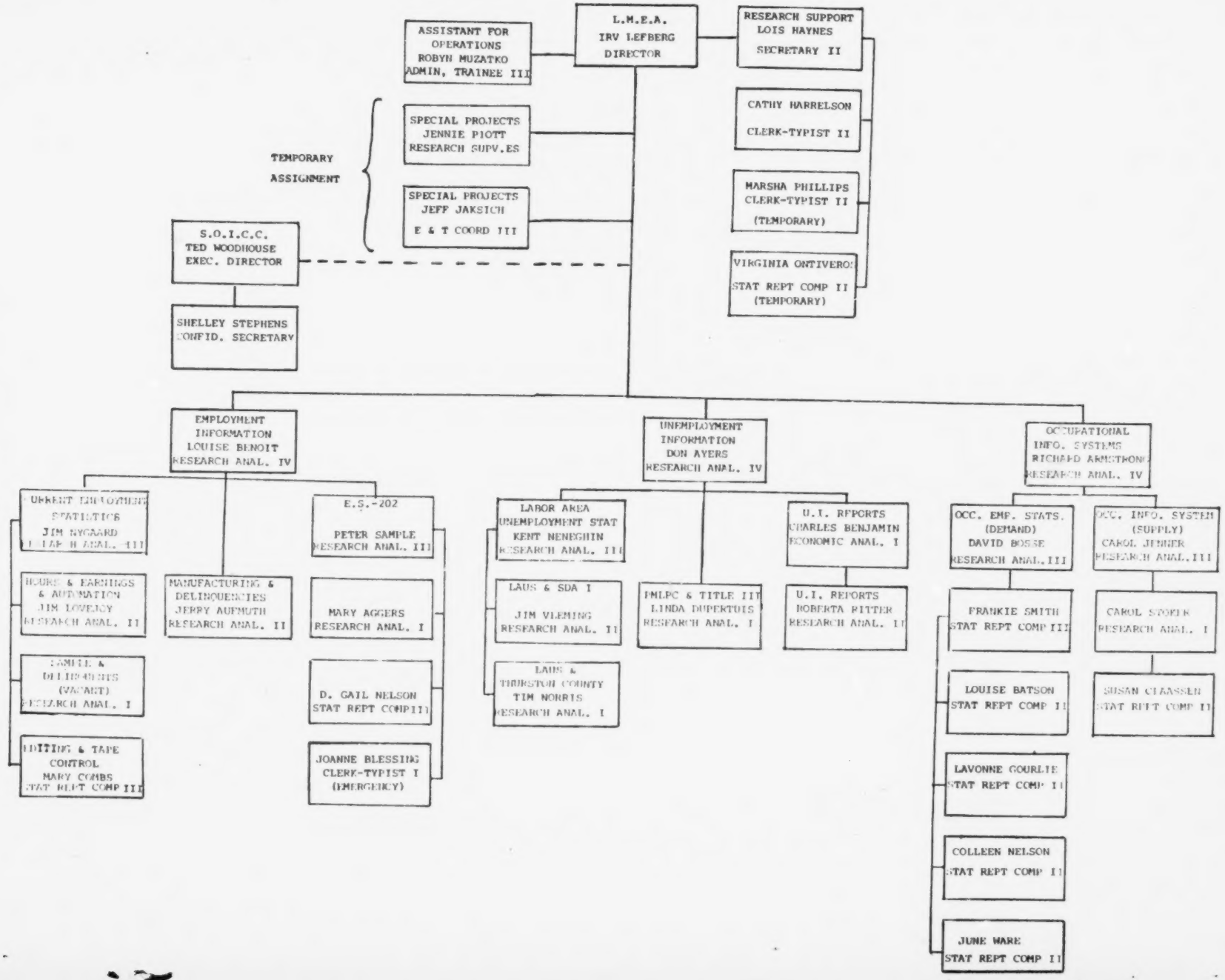
12.2 - 15.2

9.5 - 12.1

UNDER 9.4

MARCH
UNEMPLOYMENT
RATES

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